AVENGERS vs X-MEN®

MARVEL

AVX VS

ROUND 4

HICKMAN
ROMITA JR.
HANNA
MARTIN JR.

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AVX VS

ROUND 4

THE COSMIC PHOENIX FORCE IS RETURNING TO EARTH. TO THE AVENGERS, IT HERALDS THE END OF THE WORLD. TO THE X-MEN, IT REPRESENTS THE REBIRTH OF THEIR SPECIES.

WHEN HOPE SUMMERS, THE PHOENIX FORCE'S CHOSEN HOST, FLED UTOPIA, THE AVENGERS AND THE X-MEN DISPATCHED TEAMS ACROSS THE GLOBE TO FIND HER. ADDITIONALLY, AN AVENGERS AWAY MISSION INTENDS TO INTERCEPT THE PHOENIX FORCE IN DEEP SPACE.

WOLVERINE BELIEVES THERE IS NO OTHER OPTION BUT TO KILL HOPE. IN ORDER TO STOP HIM, CAPTAIN AMERICA STRANDED HIM IN THE ANTARCTIC TUNDRA.

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LOCATION UNKNOWN

HOPE

ANTARCTICA

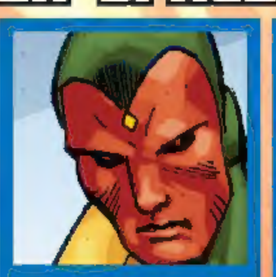
WOLVERINE

OUTER SPACE AWAY MISSION

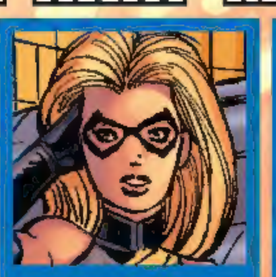
THOR

WAR MACHINE

VALKYRIE



THE VISION



MS. MARVEL

PROTECTOR

CAPTAIN BRITAIN

BEAST

HELLFIRE CLUB SAFE HOUSE

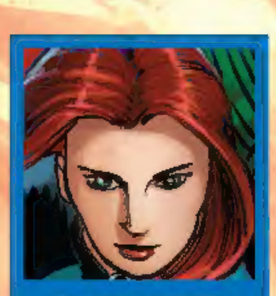
CYCLOPS

EMMA FROST

THE JEAN GREY SCHOOL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

TOAD

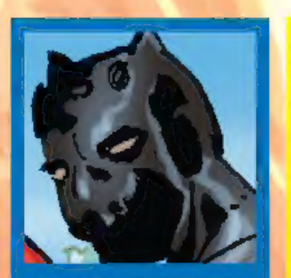
WAKANDA



BLACK WIDOW

QUICKSILVER

IRON FIST



BLACK PANTHER

DANGER

MAGMA

STORM

DR. NEMESIS

RACHEL SUMMERS

TABULA RASA

LUKE CAGE

THE THING

NAMOR

HEPZIBAH

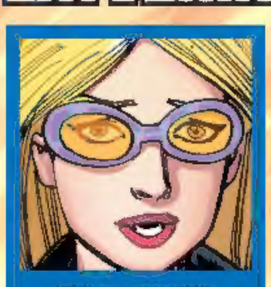
SUNSPOT

LATVERIA

DAREDEVIL

SPIDER-MAN

SPIDER-WOMAN



MOCKINGBIRD

COLOSSUS

DOMINO

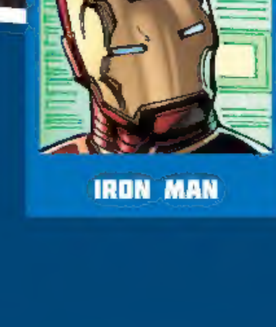
DAZZLER

WUNDAGORE MOUNTAIN

RED HULK

HAWKEYE

DOCTOR STRANGE



MAGNETO

ICEMAN

ANGEL

PSYLOCKE

SAVAGE LAND

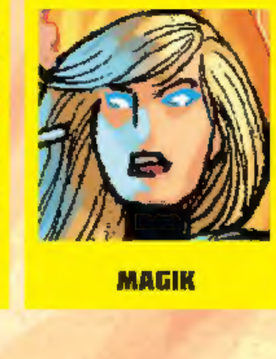
CAPTAIN AMERICA

GIANT-MAN

MADISON JEFFRIES

WARPATH

GAMBIT



MAGIK

AVENGERS TOWER

IRON MAN

AVENGERS

X-MEN

ANTARCTICA.

THANK YOU, LORD.

EH?

AND HERE I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A *BEER* TRAP.

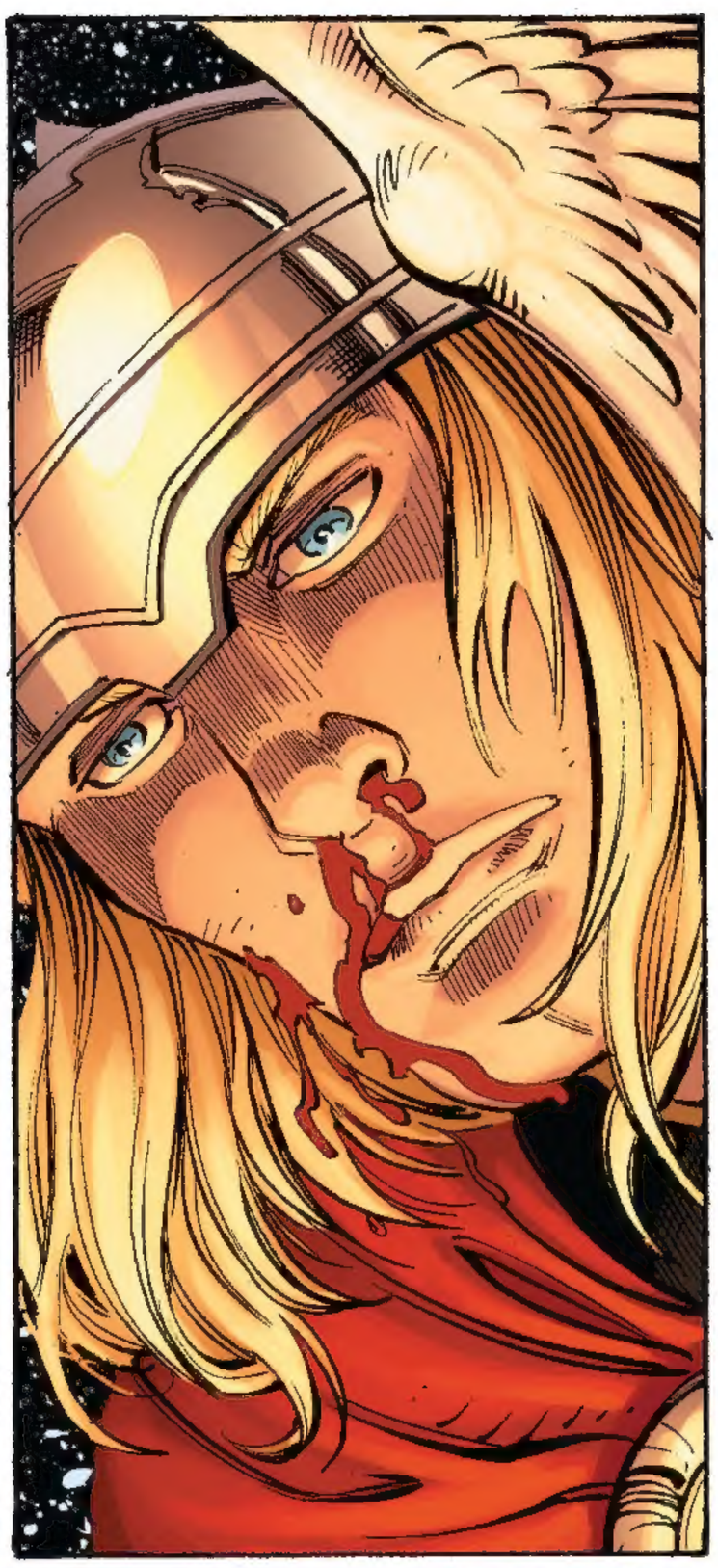
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU.

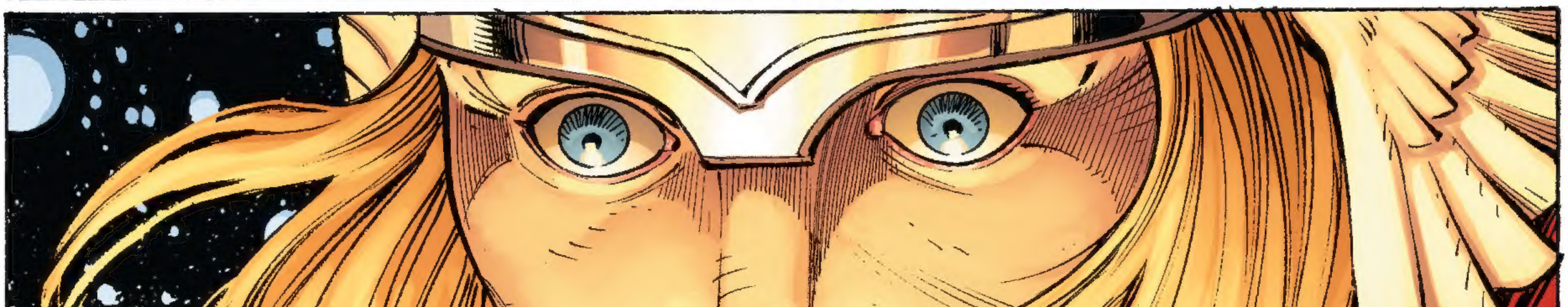
HELLO, LOGAN.

HELLO, HOPE.

SNIKT

DEEP SPACE.
THE INNER RIM OF THE ERIDANIAN SYSTEM.





ANTARCTICA.

LOGAN-- WAIT!

AIN'T NO WAY OF TALKIN' YOUR WAY OUT OF THIS...

IT IS WHAT IT IS, KID.

I PROMISE--I CAN CHANGE YOUR MIND. JUST GIVE ME ONE MINUTE.

I HAVE MORE BEER--NOT FROZEN.

...

ONE MINUTE.

AND AREN'T YOU A LITTLE YOUNG TO BE BUYING...

KID OMEGA IS MAKING SOME PRETTY CONVINCING FAKE I.D.S. HE SELLS THEM OUT OF HIS DORM ROOM. YOU KNOW, AT *YOUR* SCHOOL.

KID'S GONNA BE THE DEATH OF ME.

CLOCK'S TICKIN'.

RIGHT. SO TO RECAP: THE PHOENIX IS HEADED TO EARTH-- HEADED TO *ME.* I BELIEVE IF I EMBRACE IT, I WILL BE ABLE TO USE ITS POWER TO REIGNITE MUTANTDOM...

AND YOU THINK THAT IT'LL POSSESS ME AND I'LL LOSE CONTROL AND DESTROY EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE ON THIS PLANET.

DON'T "*THINK*"--I *KNOW* IT.

I'VE SEEN WHAT *THE BIRD* DOES WITH MY OWN TWO EYES.

YEAH...BUT WHAT IF I'M RIGHT?

I DON'T BELIEVE THAT.

WELL, YOU SHOULD. BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT YOUR SCHOOL IS ALL ABOUT, ISN'T IT? KIDS MAKING A BETTER WORLD?

I BELIEVE THE PHOENIX IS A THING OF DESTINY--IT'S COMING AND IT CAN'T BE STOPPED.

I BELIEVE I'M MEANT TO HAVE IT SO I CAN DO ALL THE WONDERFUL THINGS THAT REBIRTH IMPLIES.

BUT JUST IN CASE YOU'RE RIGHT AND I'M WRONG--IN CASE I CAN'T CONTROL IT...YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON I TRUST TO STOP ME.

BUT I DESERVE A CHANCE--I KNOW DEEP DOWN YOU *DO* BELIEVE THAT.

LET'S PRETEND FOR A MOMENT I'M ON BOARD.

YOU CERTAIN THIS IS A DANCE YOU'RE DOWN FOR, LITTLE GIRL?

YES.

SO. PLEASE.

...

YOU GOT SOME KINDA PLAN IN MIND?

YEAH.

STARTS WITH US GETTING OUT OF HERE.

YOU CAN FLY THIS PLANE, RIGHT?

SURE.

OKAY, GREAT. I NEED A NAP. I WAS SO EXHAUSTED FROM BEING ON THE RUN I ALMOST CRASHED THIS THING EARLIER.

OKAY, AND THEN? AFTER THAT?

OH...

...WE'RE GONNA NEED A BIGGER SHIP.

AN ABANDONED HELLFIRE CLUB SAFE HOUSE.

MORE OF WOLVERINE'S STUDENTS AND STAFF JOIN US ALL THE TIME. EVEN NOW, MORE ARE HEADING OVER TO OUR SIDE.

GOOD. WE NEED EVERYONE WE CAN GET. HOPE'S SOMEWHERE OUT THERE, RUNNING FOR HER LIFE, EMMA--THE SPARK TO REIGNITE ALL OF MUTANTKIND.

WE HAVE TO HELP HER.

YES, YES... FIVE FLICKERING FLAMES, LIGHTING UP THE WORLD.

WE'VE SENT X-MEN TO ALL OF THE LOCATIONS IN THE HOPES OF FINDING HER OR, AT THE VERY LEAST, TO PREVENT THE AVENGERS FROM CATCHING HOPE.

BUT IF WE'RE TRULY GOING TO STAY ONE STEP AHEAD OF THEM, THEN WE'LL NEED SOMETHING MORE. CONCENTRATION FROM ME, CONTROL OF THE WEAKEST OF MINDS...

THE JEAN GREY SCHOOL FOR HIGHER LEARNING.

"AND A LITTLE HELP FROM CEREBRA."

AH!

HELLO, WORLD.

"NOW...WHERE, OH WHERE, COULD YOU BE?

"NOT IN WAKANDA.

"I SEE AVENGERS AND X-MEN FIGHTING, I SEE A HUSBAND BATTLING HIS WIFE...

"BUT NO HOPE-- AND NO SIGN OF WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR.

"IN TABULA RASA IT'S MORE OF THE SAME.

"OLD RIVALRIES REKINDLED.

YOU KNOW WHAT, FISH BOY?

I DON'T EVEN CARE WHAT'S GOIN' ON...I JUST LIKE PUNCHIN' YOU IN YOUR STUPID FISH FACE.

"JUST ON NEW TERRAIN...

RRRUMMBLLLEE!

EKRREEEEEEEE!

"AND OVER NEW CAUSES.

"SCARS ON TOP OF OLDER SCARS.

"AND IN LATVERIA...

"THERE'S ALWAYS DOOM.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE WERE EXPECTING...

COME SEE THE GLORIOUS CARPATHIAN MOUNTAINS, HOME OF HAIRY GOATS AND DOOMBOTS AND--WE PROMISE--EVERY MUTANT EXCEPT THE ONE YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.

HRRNN!

SOMEONE CALL FOR HELP.

RRAARRRRR!

SMASH!

"AND STILL NO HOPE AS THE BATTLE RAGES AT THE BASE OF WUNDAGORE MOUNTAIN.

WARREN! LOOK OUT!

"STILL NO EVIDENCE OF WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR...

"WHICH LEAVES ONLY ONE POSSIBLE PLACE.

"AH! THERE...

WHHUFF!

"THERE IN THE SAVAGE LAND. THERE HE IS...

AAARRGGH!

STAY DOWN, SON.

NO NEED FOR THIS TO BE WORSE THAN IT ALREADY IS.

"THE GOOD CAPTAIN."

SCOTT, HOPE'S NOT AT ANY OF THE LOCATIONS. TRICKY GIRL HAS FIGURED SOME WAY TO SCATTER HER SIGNAL.

SHE CAN'T BE FOUND THIS WAY, BUT *HE'S THERE*, DO YOU WANT ME TO--

DO IT.

WE ONLY NEED HOPE TO STAY FREE OR HIDDEN UNTIL THE PHOENIX ARRIVES.

UNTIL THEN, I NEED TO *KNOW* WHAT *THEY KNOW.*

I...

I...

I HAVE *HIM.*

ANY LUCK FINDING THE GIRL, CAP?

LOOKS LIKE A DEAD END. SHE'S FOOLED ALL OF US, TONY...

AVENGERS TOWER.

HOW MUCH TIME DO WE HAVE LEFT?

LESS. THERE'S A DECREASING DELTA IN THE AWAY TEAM'S TELEMETRY-- THEY'RE HEADED THIS WAY. *FAST.* TEN HOURS...MAYBE LESS.

THE ONLY GOOD NEWS IS NOW WE HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THESE THINGS SINCE THE LAST TIME MANKIND FACED A FULLY REALIZED PHOENIX ENTITY: PARTICLE ACCELERATORS SIMULATE THE BIG BANG.

AT THE BEGINNING OF SPACE-TIME, COSMIC DEATH AND REBIRTH WERE ONLY MICROSECONDS APART. CLEARLY, THE BIRD WAS BORN IN THAT MOMENT.

I'VE TALKED TO BEAST, T'CHALLA AND EVEN HANK--THEY ALL AGREE...

IF I'M GOING TO BUILD A PHOENIX-KILLER, I'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO CRACK UNIVERSAL EXPANSION.

YOU FOLLOWING ME, CAP?

NOT REALLY.

FIND THE GIRL, GET THE GIRL. THAT I UNDERSTAND.

GIVE ME A SECOND.

CRACK!

HAVE I EVER TOLD YOU HOW DISAPPOINTING IT IS THAT YOU CAN'T DO TWO THINGS AT ONCE?

YEAH, HOLD THAT THOUGHT.

I'M GETTING A--

BE-DOOP.

WELL, I'LL BE...

TONY, PLEASE CONTACT ALL THE OTHER TEAMS AND HAVE THEM PULL BACK AND RENDEZVOUS AT THE TOWER.

NEW PLAN. WE DON'T HAVE TO CHASE HOPE ANYMORE.

YOU FOUND HER?

NO...

...BUT I DID JUST LEARN WHERE SHE'S HEADED.

SCOTT... THEY *KNOW!*

A.I.M. WORLDWORKS.
STAGING AREA FOR ADVANCED IDEA MECHANICS.

RRRRR

YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD AT THIS DEATH AND DISMEMBERMENT THING.

WHAT CAN I SAY...?

I'M IN A MOOD.

NOW...

I WONDER WHO MIGHT BE WILLING TO HELP US FIND WHAT WE'RE LOOKIN' FOR?

I--I--I COULD DO THAT.

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT.

I'M SURE YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING, BUT JUST IN CASE, TELEMETRY IS ALL PRE-PROGRAMMED FOR ANY NUMBER OF DESTINATIONS *AND* EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR EXCURSIONS...

ARE--ARE YOU GOING TO KILL ME NOW?

I DUNNO... HOW FAST CAN YOU RUN?

WHOA.

I DID SAY BIGGER, DIDN'T I?

HEY...

A REDHEADED GIRL SAYS SHE WANTS TO GO TO THE MOON...

I GOTTA TAKE HER.

THE BLUE AREA OF THE MOON.
AN ARTIFICIAL ENVIRONMENT, CREATED BY THE ALIEN SKRULLS.
- NINE HOURS LATER.

IT'S SO CLOSE NOW.

I CAN FEEL IT.

ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS WAIT.

I'M SORRY, YOUNG LADY. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO COMPLICATE YOUR PLANS JUST A BIT.

NO.

HOW DID YOU PEOPLE FIND ME?

AS SOON AS HE KNEW WHERE YOU WERE HEADED, LOGAN LET ME KNOW.

I'M AFRAID WE CAN'T LET YOU DO WHAT YOU WANT.

WE CAN'T RISK IT.

HOW COULD YOU?

A LITTLE CLOSING OF THE EYES, A LITTLE FOLDING OF THE HANDS AND WOLVES WILL COME IN AND DEVOUR ALL THAT YOU HAVE.

YOU TOOK A *NAP.* I MADE A *DECISION.*

YOU *BROKE* OUR *DEAL.*

I GOT YOU OFF EARTH.

YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHAT THIS THING IS, HOPE--*BUT YOU DON'T!*

I WO--

ARGHH!

AVENGERS...

PLEASE STEP AWAY FROM THE GIRL.

NOT GONNA HAPPEN, SUMMERS...

TAKE YOUR X-MEN BACK HOME.

PROXIMITY ALERT.

SURE. BUT NOT WITHOUT HOPE!

INCOMING PROJECTILE. IMPACT IMMINENT. ENACT EVASIVE MANEUVERS.

IMPACT IN 5...4...3...

EVERYONE, LOOK OUT!

BIBIOUOUOUW!

OH, NO...

THOR.

IT'S HERE.

TO BE CONTINUED
IN THREE WEEKS...!

AVS X

#5

COMING IN THREE WEEKS!